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President's Message

I think it's safe to say that we're glad it's the spring of 2021 and not 2020. In spite of the continuing COVID pandemic, we can see light at the end of the tunnel and your UMSL Retirees Association continues to work on your behalf on the local and System level.

First, I would like to announce that we plan to hold our **annual Summer Meeting** in person on **Thursday, June 17, 2021 at 11:30 am at Glen Echo County Club**, assuming that Club and St. Louis County restrictions allow us to do so. Masks will be required except when eating and Glen Echo will maintain the appropriate social distancing protocols. We hope that you will have been fully vaccinated by then and feel comfortable joining us. Chancellor Kristin Sobolik has graciously agreed to cover the cost of this luncheon and meeting (but there will be a cash-bar for those wanting wine) and she will also be our featured speaker. There are a lot of updates to share with you, including how the campus has weathered this pandemic and its schedule for re-opening to full operations. An invitation will be forthcoming.

Second, your Executive Board has been actively engaged with counterparts among the three other campuses and the System to discuss a wide range of issues. Foremost among those was to successfully stop taking away retirees' UMSL email addresses. We are also engaging System administrators on effective ways to communicate with retirees and prospective retirees across all the campuses. These conversations are leading to fruitful and creative ways to make sure those employees facing retirement know all of their options and know how to engage in their respective campus's Retirees Association.

Third, I am proud of the excellent program on Elder Financial Abuse that our Program Committee put on in January. This two-hour webinar focused on common schemes hackers and criminals use in attempted fraud and ways to prevent it. It also focused on ways family members and other caregivers can help protect loved ones from being victims. An article about this program is included in this newsletter.

Fourth, I want to encourage you to think about potential nominees for our Annual Retirees of the Year Award. An Award is given each year to a desiring faculty and staff retiree and each receives a \$1,000 cash award. I am including an application form with this Newsletter. Please note that it is possible to nominate yourself!



*Clark J. Hickman
President*

Lastly, thank you for your continued membership in your UMSL Retirees Association. On behalf of the officers and Board, it is our pleasure to serve you and your interests. We very much hope to see you at our annual June meeting!

Clark J. Hickman, Ed.D.

President, 2020-2021

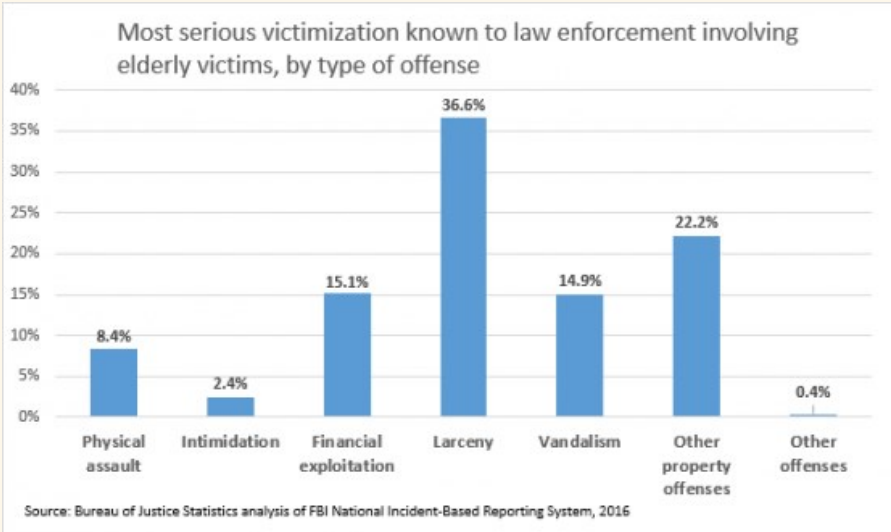
Winter Webinar on Elder Abuse

On the afternoon of Thursday, January 28, 2021, the UMSL Retiree Association held an event titled “Elder Abuse and Exploitation– And What You Can Do About It”. Because of the Covid pandemic the event was on Zoom. The panel, consisting of three speakers, was sponsored by the St. Louis County Older Adult Commission (StLC- OAC).

Panelists presented information on various aspects of the topic followed by a question and answer period.

Carroll Rodriguez, Vice-chair of the StLC-OAC, and formerly the Senior VP of Governmental Affairs and Advocacy of the Alzheimer’s Association in St. Louis, gave an overview of the extent of the problem and the various forms of abuse and exploitation experienced by older adults – not only in Missouri but also on a national level.

Mary Tucker (member of the St. Louis Elder Financial Protection Multidisciplinary Team and former Director of Elder Clients Initiative Team at Wells Fargo Advisors) presented an in depth discussion of the types of financial abuse, as well as real-life examples of exploitation perpetrated by family members, caretakers, and strangers.



The final segment, presented by renowned elder law and disability attorney Debra Schuster (from the law firm of Paule, Camazine and Blumenthal), covered the legal remedies and resources available to older adults who experience abuse and exploitation. UMSL Retiree Association board member and panel organizer, Zuleyma Tang-Martinez (also a member of the StLC-OAC) moderated the discussion.

Almost 30 individuals attended the event, which seemed to be very well received. During the question and answer session, as well as afterwards, several participants commented on the usefulness of the information and on the new insights they had gained as a result of listening to the presentations.

We welcome ideas for future presentations, seminars or activities that might be of interest to members of the UMSL Retirees Association. Please let us know your thoughts or ideas by contacting Debbie Kettler, Chair of the Planning and Events Committee at dkettler@sbcglobal.net

Membership

The UMSL Retirement Association Membership Committee has improved the ways to reach and recruit new members.



Membership in the UMSL Retirees Association is a great way to connect with former employees and make new friends!

As we wait for the time we can meet again face to face, the membership committee has been hard at work on recruitment strategies for new members and outreach strategies for former and lapsed members. We have created an official UMSL Retirement Association (RA) recruitment folder. It includes our NEW brochure, an updated membership application, welcome letter from the Chancellor and Board President. Check out the new [recruitment brochure and membership application online](#) to learn about the benefits of being a member.

Jim Hertel , UMSL Human Resources, is looking into the a future practice of holding preretirement meetings for those who have filed an Intent to Retire form but before their last day of work. We have been invited to be part of these meetings to distribute the folders and talk about the benefits of joining the RA.

Throughout this year, we have been actively reaching out

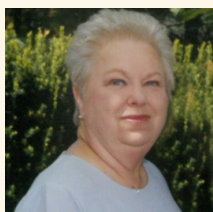


**Melissa Hattman,
Membership
Committee Chair**

to our lapsed members reminding them of the importance of staying connected to their colleagues and UMSL retiree community especially now in this isolation created by the pandemic. As recently as January, we drafted a letter, under the signature of the board chair, that was sent via email to these members offering encouragement and reminding of them of the benefits of membership.

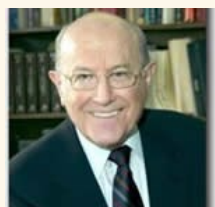
If you know of any retired — or soon to be retired — UMSL employee who might be interested in joining, please refer them to our [Web Site](#), or feel free to email Melissa Hattman at mhattman@att.net

In Memoriam



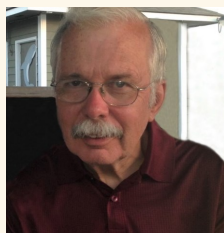
Gloria Axe, July 9, 2020, Continuing Education and School of Business Administration

Gerald Franzel, February 18, 2021, College of Optometry and School of Continuing & Professional Studies



Israel Grayes, Fall 2020, Custodial Services

Thomas Hensley, January 29, 2021, College of Education



Jerry Hoffman, September 29, 2020, Admissions

Tom McPhail, November 25, 2020, Department of Media Studies, College of Arts & Sciences



Jane Miller, March 17, 2021, Department of Chemistry, College of Arts & Sciences

David Robertson, October 7, 2020, Department of Political Science, College of Arts & Sciences



Staying Connected

As a member of the Retirees Association, you have taken an important step to stay connected. There are two additional ways to make sure you receive important information from the University pertaining to issues relevant to retirees.

Please make sure your contact information is correct at UM System, including your preferred email address, especially if it is not an umsl.edu email. Checking and bringing your contact information up to date is easy to do:

- Go to <https://myhr.umsystem.edu>
- Click on "Personal Details"
- Click on "Contact Details"

This screen allows you to update your email and/or telephone information.

If you have trouble updating your information, please contact System Benefits at 573-882-2146.

If you are on Facebook, please search for "UMSL Retirees Association" and "Like" us. We post information about upcoming programs, and other news important to retirees.

UM Retiree Contact

A reminder that the UM System contact for UMSL Retirees regarding pension, insurance and other retiree matters is Mr. Tony W. Redlinger. His email address is redlingera@umsystem.edu and his phone number is 573-884-1477. Tony welcomes your calls or emails regarding any question or issue you have!



Tony Redlinger

UMSL Retirees Association

Officers and Board 2020-2021

President: Dr. Clark J. Hickman

President-elect: Dr. Kathleen M. Haywood

Past-President: Dr. Michael Murray

Secretary: Dr. Helene J. Sherman

Treasurer: Dr. Steven Spaner

Board Members:

Ms. Debbie Kettler

Ms. Brenda Shannon-Simms

Dr. Zuleyma Tang-Martinez

Mr. David Ganz

Ms. Sue Baber

Ms. Melissa Hattman

Dr. Lol Barton, *ex-officio*

Ms. Ericka Webb, *ex-officio*, Office of Human Resources

Retiree of the Year Award Nomination Form



University of Missouri-St. Louis

2021 Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Awards Nomination Form

The Chancellor's Retiree of the Year Awards focus on the accomplishments of former UMSL employees, after their retirement. These accomplishments may involve volunteer service to the University, civic and welfare services, career and professional activities, or other noteworthy accomplishments. Accomplishments prior to retirement are not considered in the selection process.

Two awards will be given: one to a faculty member and one to a staff member. Each award includes a plaque and a check.

Criteria for Candidates

- Nominees must have retired from UMSL before January 1, 2016.
- Recipients are expected to attend the annual Chancellor's State of the University Address to receive the award.
- Nominees must be fully retired from UMSL and not in any paid University position since January 1, 2016.

Nomination Process

To nominate (or re-nominate) a retiree, please complete the form below and:

1. Prepare a letter with the following information:
 - a. Nominee's extraordinary accomplishments since retiring.
 - b. Personal and background information about the nominee.
 - c. Summary—most important reason(s) why you believe the candidate should receive one of the awards.
2. Attach two (2) letters of support from others who know the nominee.
3. Please keep the nomination package to 10 pages or less, excluding this cover Nomination Form.
4. It is possible to nominate one's self.

Candidate's Name: _____

☐ Faculty ☐ Staff Year of Retirement _____ UMSL Dept at time of Retirement _____

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Nominator: _____ ☐ Faculty ☐ Staff ☐ Self ☐ Alum ☐ Retiree ☐ Community

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____

Please return form and nomination package by **June 30, 2021** to:

University of Missouri-St. Louis
Department of Human Resources
Ericka Webb/Retiree Awards
1 University Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63121
or
Email: ewebb@umsl.edu

Checklist for Nomination Materials

1. Completed Nomination Form
2. Letter of accomplishments, including:
 - Service to UMSL, volunteer civic and welfare service, professional and noteworthy achievements
 - Background and personal information
3. Two (2) letters of support from others who know the nominee

Retiree of the Year Nomination Form is also available on our website [here](#)

UMSL Retirees' Association

UMSL RA leaders meet regularly with UM system and UMSL administration regarding retirees' interests, needs and concerns. UMSL RA also works with other UM campus retiree associations to collaborate and support all retirees' concerns.

Membership is open to UMSL retirees and their spouses/partners or surviving spouses/partners. Retirees from other universities or colleges and/or spouses/partners may join as non-voting associate members with board approval.

Join Us!

For more information on retirement, UMSL RA benefits and application form [visit us online](#)

For general information about retirement, see the following

[umsystem.edu/totalrewards/retirement](https://www.umsl.edu/totalrewards/retirement)

<https://www.umsl.edu/ums/hr/hrservicecenter>